

How to Establish Your STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

A Practical Guide for Implementation

PURPOSE

The Student Advisory Council is the embodiment of Student Voice. By working closely with a group of students representing the school, all students have an opportunity to have their voices heard. With help from educators and administrators, the Student Advisory Council gives students an opportunity to make meaningful change.

CHARACTERISTICS

The Student Advisory Council is representative of the student body, shares a purpose for school improvement, and is systematic.

A systematic council means there is: time scheduled on the calendar for meetings, a structured meeting format, strategies for including all students' voices, and plans to follow through on student ideas.

STEPS TO STARTING YOUR COUNCIL

RECRUIT STUDENTS

Recruit a diverse group of students. This includes:

- Both traditional and non-traditional leaders
- Inclusion from various clubs, organizations, and classes
- Students with diverse backgrounds (CIT, GT, ELD, SpEd, LGBT...)

ESTABLISH A SYSTEM

How will your council operate?

- Establish a meeting day, time, location, and agenda
- Agree on admittance criteria and member roles
- Set expectations for participation
- Plan for systematically soliciting the voices of all students
- Ensure accountability for follow-through of goals
- Establish what future recruitment will look like

ASK FOR HELP

Contact the WCSD Student Voice office for more help!

There are many examples of how Student Advisory Councils are being implemented throughout the district.